

Mayor Antonovich Kicks Off 3rd Annual Los Angeles County Technology Week

Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich delivered the opening address at the Technology Week 2006 Keynote Luncheon, and ended his remarks by introducing keynote speaker the Honorable Tommy Thompson (see photo). A proven leader who has devoted his professional life to finding common-sense, out-of-the-box solutions to society's most serious challenges, Tommy Thompson served our country as the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from 2001 to 2005 and was also a four-term Governor of Wisconsin.

"The link between technology and economic development is clear — 21st Century problems will not be solved by 20th Century solutions," said Mayor Antonovich. "As one of the leading technology centers in the United States, Los Angeles County is proud to host the 3rd Annual Technology Week. Comprised of 88 cities and 134 unincorporated communities, Los Angeles County was founded in the early 1700's by Spanish missionaries with the building of the San Gabriel Mission in today's City of San Gabriel. From these humble beginnings, our modern day economy of aerospace, entertainment and tourism has evolved into a cutting edge economic engine with unparalleled access to world markets."



Mayor Antonovich and the Honorable Tommy Thompson

"Our region continues to expand technological growth, and as part of that commitment I have strongly supported 24-hour operation of our ports, development of regional airports in Palmdale and Ontario, and expansion of the Gold Line, our light rail link between the Ontario Airport, the San Gabriel Valley and downtown Los Angeles," added Antonovich.

Los Angeles County and most of its cities are anxious to engage in forward-thinking, mutual partnerships to create jobs and economic development opportunities for the private and public sectors. To help achieve these goals, the Business Technology Center (BTC) in Altadena was created in 1998. The BTC has been in operation for more than seven years, and is currently the largest technology incubator in California. This unique public/private project has been extremely successful — receiving awards from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the National Association of Counties, the California Association for Local Economic Development and the Governor's Office of the State of California.

In addition to creating 475 jobs for the region, the BTC provides key support services to 39 tenant and affiliate firms — with specialties ranging from fuel cells to biometric software. To date, more than 45% of BTC firms have received more than \$65 million in equity investment.

HIGHLIGHTS

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EVENT CALENDAR

Please join Mayor Michael D. Antonovich at his 9th annual event "Remembering Our Veterans and Their Families Past, Present and Future"

Saturday, May 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Arcadia County Park, 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia 91006

8th Annual Multicultural Conference

April 26 and 27

Wilshire Grand Hotel

For more information, please contact Mary Norman at

(213) 738-9417 or mnorman@dmh.co.la.ca.us.

19th Annual County of Los Angeles Chess Tournament

Every Thursday beginning April 6 to May 11

For more information, contact Norman Cortez at (626) 300-3388,

Paul Jones at (626) 258-6164 or Lowell Harter at (213) 974-4298.

Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden

301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia 91007

For a list of seminars, workshops and classes, please visit

www.arboretum.org or call (626) 821-4623.

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles 90036

(323) 857-6000

www.lacma.org

Through April 16 – *LACMA at 40: Gifts in Honor of the Museum's Anniversary*

Through June 11 – *Ettore Sottsass, Designer*

Through June 4 – *Contemporary Projects 10: Mrzyk & Moriceau and Felicien Rops – You Only Live 25 Times*

Music Center

135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012

(213) 972-7211

www.musiccenter.org

Ahmanson Theatre

March 28 through April 9 – *"Dame Edna: Back With A Vengeance!"*

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

March 25 through April 15 – Mozart's *"Le Nozze di Figaro"*

Mark Taper Forum

April 9 through May 21 – Joshua Sobol's *"iWitness"*

Kirk Douglas Theater

601 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles 90012

Through April 9 – *"The Stones"*

Mayor Antonovich Lauds Success of Innovative Homeless Court Program

At a recent Board of Supervisors meeting, Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich recognized an outstanding program that is assisting the homeless of Los Angeles County on the road to self-sufficiency.

Created by the Los Angeles County Superior Court, the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office and advocates for the homeless, including Public Counsel and the Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority, the Homeless Court program helps impoverished individuals with a history of homelessness to clear tickets and warrants for minor offenses. These include traffic tickets, infractions, and various minor misdemeanors including jaywalking, riding the metro without a fare, and sleeping in public places.

The Homeless Court program has helped alleviate the high rate of recidivism for the homeless population by taking care of unresolved citations and warrants which often have outstanding fines attached to them, preventing the individual from obtaining a driver's license, and/or employment.

The Los Angeles Homeless Court is the first in the entire United States to integrate its restitutorial-justice principles into the County's Greater Avenues for Independence

HOMELESS COURT PROGRAM
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County DIGEST

Articles and other submissions to the *County DIGEST* may be edited or otherwise altered for clarity.

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1-800-87-FRAUD

South Whittier Residents Celebrate Arrival of New Shuttle Service with Transit Fair



With the arrival of the South Whittier Shuttle service on January 21, residents of unincorporated Whittier are now enjoying their very own community shuttle, servicing more than 35 locations between Whittwood Town Center to the east and Sorensen Park to the west. The two-way shuttle service connects to various other transit lines run by Metro (MTA); the cities of Montebello, Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, and Whittier; and the County-operated Los Nietos Shuttle. Through this regional network of connectors, the South Whittier Shuttle opens the door for residents to a variety of regional and local destinations, including libraries, schools, parks, health and social service providers, youth and senior community centers, and major shopping centers.

To celebrate the launch of South Whittier's first shuttle service, local residents attended a **Community Transit Fair** from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the **Community Resource Center located at 10750 Laurel Avenue, South Whittier**. The event featured rider information, live entertainment, food and fun for the entire family.

As a way of encouraging residents to experience the new transit line for themselves, County Supervisors made the first week of shuttle operations free to the public, January 21-28. The service will run from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"I am pleased the South Whittier Shuttle service is becoming a reality in this transit dependent community. We are complementing regional and local existing transit services by increasing mobility for area residents," First District Supervisor

Gloria Molina said. "This long-awaited service will provide residents accessibility to regional transit points and key local destinations."

"Our goal is for the South Whittier Shuttle to become a valuable asset to the hundreds of families, students, senior citizens, and other members of this community who rely on public transportation," Fourth District Supervisor Don Knabe said. "The shuttle will not only connect South Whittier residents with vital municipal and social services, but safely deliver students to school and employees to work."

The service will begin its first few months of operation with generic buses and signage, while an ad-hoc group of 12 local residents works with an environmental design agency to develop the official name, logo and overall look. The debut of the shuttle's new "identity package" will coincide with the unveiling of two new propane-powered El Dorado EZ-Rider II Max buses, purchased by federal grant funds through the office of Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (CA-39).

The South Whittier Shuttle service is funded by Proposition A Local Return Transit Funds allocated through the offices of Supervisors Knabe and Molina, as well as various federal and state grants.

For more information on the South Whittier Shuttle, call (626) 458-5960 or visit www.southwhittiershuttle.info.



Supervisors Knabe and Molina are joined by Congresswoman Linda Sánchez at the launching of the bus service and community transit fair.

RETIREES

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 30 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

ASSESSOR: Fernande Lyons

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Lawrence D. Gonzales

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: Maria Maruyama, Emi T. Yamasaki

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: Dorothy Mosley, Constance Perett, Ralph R. Terrazas, Christine Vigueria, Robyn Woodhouse

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICE: John McIntire

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Barbara Abel, Juan Castaneda, Hilda Franco, Susan E. Gonsalves, Lydia Hallsworth, Roger D. James, Patricia A. Standifer, Ruby J. Stewart, Jovita Valdez, Jerrydean Whitehurst

COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES: Louie Cole

COUNTY COUNSEL: Steven L. Houston, David B. Kelsey

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Sandra Blevins, Frank Lukus, Rose M. Malone, Timothy T. Smith

FIRE: Robert J. Baker, Roosevelt Banks Jr., John J. Barrera, Charles A. Broman, Luis M. Cervantes, Gary L. Cross, Mary E. Gutierrez, Timothy L. Hanson, Barbara K. Herrera, Gilbert Herrera Jr., Jeny E. Izaguirre, Robert A. Lininger, Donald G. Miller, William N. Miller, Jack E. Pritchard, Henry Sanchez Jr., Michael S. Sandeman, Gordon Staggs, Ian M. Thompson, Richard K. Weister, Donald L. Whisnand, Richard L. Wilk

HEALTH SERVICES: Eva G. Aguilar, Virginia L. Arnold, Aileen Atenza, Regina Beckerman, Samuel Bellomo, Sheryle G. Bowler, Pearl V. Boykins, Angela T. Brown, Alicia Buendia, Bobbie Campbell, Jewel Carter, Julie L. Chang, Norma E. Chavez, Corine Clark, Douglas B. Coffee, Rebecca S. Colson, Alicia Debayona, Nelson Der, Salome H. Dorairaj, Janet M. Dumones, Joyce M. Easley, Lelia C. Fairfax, Atsuko Fujimoto, Dorothy Gaither, Ida M. Garrett, Ruthie Garrett-Newm, Bettie L. Gibson, Rachel Y. Goo, Jose A. Hinojos, Mary V. Hollifield, Emily M. Jones, Daniel Jones, Albert J. Kettenis, Jacqueline J. Lawless, Richard Lemm, Susan Leong, Carnath Leong, Ricardo Montes, Julie Monteverde, Shanen Nicolas, Rodney B. Owens, Freddie M. Ponder, Leo A. Pope, George P. Richards, Irene Riley, Concepcion Rivas, Angela A. Santos, Sherry Shipman, Edna R. Smith, Jack L. Smith Jr., Evelyn M. Soto, Alice M. Trotter, Yih M. Tsai, Raymond L. Valenzuela, Yolanda Valenzuela, Bridget A. Ward, Daniele Williams, Geneva L. Wilson, Novella S. Wilson, Rosetta Wilson, Any V. Yakoub, David Zamorano, Mary Zartman

RETIREES

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Employee of the Month: Allen Castellano

With his parents, coworkers and members of the community in the audience, Allen Castellano received his commendation as the February 2006 Employee of the Month from Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor of the Board.

Allen Castellano has been working for the County for 11 years and was just recently promoted to Sergeant with the Sheriff's Department. As part of his daily duties, he serves the community of Pico Rivera and the unincorporated area of West Whittier, by responding to calls for service and enforcing state and local laws. "I feel I bring an 'intense' problem solving element to law enforcement. I approach each call as though I was the person asking for help. This gives me a clear perspective on how to approach the problem," Castellano said of his unique contribution to his work.

During the course of his 11-year career, Castellano has received numerous awards including: 27 commendations for "Exemplary Conduct and Application to Duties;" departmental commendations; nomination for "Deputy of the Year" in 2002; winner of "Respect for the Law" in 2005; and a three-time recipient of the coveted "10851" award, for his vast contributions in deterring vehicle theft. The "10851" award, named after the state vehicle code section pertaining to auto theft, is presented to law enforcement officers who recover stolen vehicles and apprehend suspects. His directed patrol program and his intense partnership with West Whittier residents has enabled him to arrest 118 suspects of vehicle theft during the last 12 months, which is an extraordinary record.

Sergeant Castellano was selected as one of 64 Deputy Sheriffs to be part of the Presidential Protection Detail for the 55th Presidential Inauguration on January 20, 2005 in Washington, D.C. The Sheriff's Department was the only law enforcement agency selected to represent the State of California.

Education is important to Castellano. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's degree in Public Administration. Community involvement plays a key role in his life. He was elected to the Yorba Linda City Council in November 2000 and re-elected in November 2004. Currently, he serves as the Mayor Pro-Tem for the City of Yorba Linda.

Castellano is not only a team player but also a great leader. During his attendance at monthly community meetings, Castellano met Mike Chavez, a member of the community.

EOM

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Supervisor Knabe Announces New South Bay Job Training Program

In January, Supervisor Don Knabe led the kickoff of “Career Pathways,” a new employment pilot project designed to provide scientific training and high-income job opportunities for foster youth, dislocated workers and disadvantaged adults.

Program participants will receive free college-level training in basic skills and industry-specific training, as well as free supportive services such as child care and employment counseling. If participants successfully complete the training, they will be guaranteed a job at corporate sites like ConocoPhillips, BP, Valero and Exxon-Mobil. Funding for this pilot project was provided by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s discretionary Workforce Investment Act Fund.



“This program represents an outstanding model of how to connect low-income residents with high-income jobs and the training that goes with it,” said Supervisor Knabe. “I am happy to be a part of this pilot program and look forward to finding ways to expand it throughout the County.”

Supervisor Knabe was joined at the event by Patrick Henning, Director of the California Department of Employment Development, as well as executives from ConocoPhillips and other participating refineries.

EOM

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Employee of the Month Allen Castellano, shown with Mayor Antonovich, was recently promoted to Sergeant.

“On one particular day, a group of residents were talking about their past military service and humbly, Mr. Chavez said that he had served in World War II,” Castellano recalled. “I later found out that Mr. Chavez heroically served on 33 combat missions as a tail gunner in a B-17 aircraft. However, he never received the military decorations he was entitled to prior to leaving the service. On behalf of Mr. Chavez, I submitted a request to the United States Army for the issuance of his military decorations. After over 50 years past serving in the military, Mr. Chavez received a large package at his home from the United States Army, containing his military decorations. At the next community meeting, Mr. Chavez approached me, with a huge smile on his face and his hands behind his back, and said, ‘Allen, you found my lost treasure.’ He then showed me the large package and began

to explain his military decorations to me. I will always treasure that moment.”

When asked about his family, Castellano said, “I have been blessed with a very loving and supportive family. My wife, Laura, and I have been married for nearly 12 years and have two daughters, Jessica (10) and Amy (7). We enjoy taking family vacations, playing sports and spending time together. My parents, Alfonso and Gloria, have also been a huge influence on me. They play a major role in my life and have supported me in every way possible.”

Allen Castellano, you exemplify the vision of the County of Los Angeles. For all your hard work and dedication, we congratulate you and wish you continued success!

ENRICHING LIVES...

Los Angeles County Strategic Survey Project

The 2006 Phase of the Los Angeles County Strategic Survey Project is Underway!

The Strategic Survey Project is an ongoing effort to engage employees in Strategic Planning efforts by providing them an opportunity to share their perceptions of their work environment and the extent to which the organization supports them, their performance, and the desired County culture.



All County departments are participating in the survey project and will be utilizing information obtained to further the County's Strategic Goals of Workforce Excellence and Service Excellence. The Department of Human Resources is taking a lead role in this collaborative effort under the direction of the Guiding Coalition, a body of County department heads that oversees efforts to implement the County's Strategic Plan. Because of its importance to the County's Strategic Plan implementation, the Strategic Survey Project is being financed by the Quality and Productivity Commission's Productivity Investment Fund and the Department of Human Resources.



The Strategic Survey Project began in 2003. In March of that year, 61,000 employees received one of three different strategic surveys: Work Life Survey; Training Needs Survey; or Computer Use Survey. In addition, supervisors and managers of a random sample of approximately 8,000 employees also received a fourth strategic survey (Supervisor Survey). The 2003 County-wide survey effort produced County and department level summary data that are being used to enhance employee well-being, job satisfaction, commitment, and performance. The results of this initial survey effort (summarized in the May 2005 issue of the County Digest) also suggested a need for an ongoing employee feedback survey designed to determine whether supervisors and managers are demonstrating important County strategic values, and supervisory and management practices that support employees and their performance.

In January of this year, every permanent County employee received a Strategic Values Survey and the supervisors and managers of a random sample of employees received Strategic Supervisor Surveys. The Strategic Values Survey is a revised and expanded version of the Work Life Survey that solicits employee feedback regarding the extent to which the work environment supports and/or encourages performance, commitment,



well-being, job satisfaction, and the desired County culture. The desired County culture reflected in the County's Strategic Plan is one that is mission and future focused, service oriented, collaborative, innovative, proactive, and oriented towards organizational learning. The Strategic Supervisor Survey asks supervisors and managers to describe the work behavior of a random sample of employees. It also asks supervisors and managers whether the effectiveness of these employees would be enhanced by various kinds of training.

Survey results should be available for review by departmental management in June, 2006 and initial findings should be published for employees during the summer of 2006. Individuals' responses will be kept confidential. Only summary reports will be distributed. The survey results will be used by departments to help inform decisions about efforts to enhance the work environment to better support employees, their performance, and the desired County culture. As soon as results are available, departments will begin evaluating the survey results in the context of their own strategic plans and their departmental operations. Departments will have to prioritize actions and work within available resources, but efforts will be ongoing and the survey results will guide decisions for many years to come.



County of Los Angeles VISION

Our ***purpose*** is to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles County by providing responsive, efficient and high quality public services that promote the self-sufficiency, well-being and prosperity of individuals, families, businesses and communities.

Our ***philosophy*** of teamwork and collaboration is anchored in our ***shared values***:

- **A can-do attitude** - we approach each challenge believing that, together, a solution can be achieved.
- **Accountability** - we accept responsibility for the decisions we make and the actions we take.
- **Compassion** - we treat those we serve and each other in a kind and caring manner.
- **Commitment** - we always go the extra mile to achieve our mission.
- **Integrity** - we act consistent with our values.
- **Professionalism** - we perform to a high standard of excellence.
- **Respect for diversity** - we value the uniqueness of every individual and their perspective.
- **Responsiveness** - we take the action needed in a timely manner.

Our ***position*** as the premier organization for those working in the public interest is established by:

- a capability to undertake programs that have public value;
- an aspiration to be recognized through our achievements as the model for civic innovation; and a pledge to always work to earn the public trust.

RETIREES

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HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Eddie Jackson, Charles Lockett, Milton Parker, Charlotte A. Scott

INTERNAL SERVICES: Cathy L. Arnold, Emily M. Barrios, Jackson H. Chang, Robert L. Cornelius, Arturo G. Corona, Sandra L. Darthard, Sharon L. Davis, Richard Fabio, Alice G. Frandsen, Fernando H. Garcia, Mark H. Gascoigne, Diana Glazewski, Margarita V. Gomez, H. P. Hundt, Kyusun Jo, Richard Lambert, Nancy C. Marquez, Glancy McKnealy, Arthur E. Ogawa, Heung S. Park, Luis G. Reynoso, Jose A. Serrano, Stephen H. Wilke, Harwood L. Wright

MENTAL HEALTH: Georgia W. Benadom, Elizabeth H. Duran, John Hatakeyama, Carlene A. Johnson, Alfred D. Kendrick, Barbara J. Kubik, James J. Pavik, Paul Schettler, Josette Scott, Jerome M. Shiga

PARKS & RECREATION: Ahmed Bahbah, Thomas R. Cardiel, George Castion, David Guerrero, Raynaldo R. Marquez, John Moronez Jr., Hermelindo Reynoso, Richard L. Rodriguez, Carl S. Vento

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Michael Allensworth, Amy Ibarra, Rosie Maloof, Philomene J. Swenson, John J. Vacca

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REGIONAL PLANNING: Lewis M. Cabriaes, David C. Cowardin, James E. Hartl

REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK: Ned Huthmacher, Dorothy M. Jones, Wanda Revels

SHERIFF: Jon S. Austin, Donna L. Beddow, Peter V. Bell, Kathryn A. Bernardini, Gerald P. Biehn, Maria A. Burwell, Pamela Camron, Valerie I. Carnahan, Michael W. Chamberlain, James R. Coffman, Yolanda Conklin, Ricardo Cotwright, Lewis A. Cowan, James A. Digiovanna, Mary J. Dixon, Richard G. Duran, David L. Elsasser, Cynthia A. Fontno, Sigmund W. Frawley, Ronald E. Gardette, James B. Hicks, Shigeki G. Kikkawa, Sangwany T. Kreng, Philip S. Kurtz, Michael W. Monteverde, Phillip M. Moreno, Dorothy D. Morris, Bruce G. Pattullo, Franklin L. Pinedo, Gloria M. Prendez, Harley M. Sagara, Marina Salazar, Marsha N. Scurlock, Guadalupe Seeger, Gerald D. Stimmell, Gregory W. Stokes, Patricia J. Wilcher, Clarence W. Wilson Jr.

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 25 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

ASSESSOR: Lillie M. Downs-McLean, Addie M. Mahome, Nancy L. Walter

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Gary D. Jamison, Patricia A. Klar, Rose Marinelli, Nina J. Martin, Linda Salcido

COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES: Julia Donnelly, Gloria M. Quezada

CORONER: Gilda Tolbert

COUNTY COUNSEL: John W. McCauley

FIRE: Samuel Baldon, Paul G. Brown, Eric Foster, Mark I. Hanson

HEALTH SERVICES: Victor Aguilar, Orethia Broussard, Gertrude T. De Paco, Sandra A. Edwards, Dianne Farr, Arnold Fielding, Aurelio M. Franco, Mary L. Garay, Alicia Garcia, John E. Gibson, Maceo H. Hayes, Cynthia J. Heyer, Hain N. Ho, Alice S. Kay, Paul R. Meyer, Frederick S. Mishkin, Dominic Muzsnai, Irene Oliver, Aurea Pablo, Yenreudee Pholchai, Mattie Record, Sharon M. Roder, Bok-Soo Shin

INTERNAL SERVICES: Gholamreza Behforooz, Daphne L. Bell, Dante B. Laforteza, Paul Martinez, Gerrit Nieboer, Russell A. Reelfs

MENTAL HEALTH: Graciano A. Patague, Olga L. Perry, Ching H. Shih

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM: Janet R. Fireman

PUBLIC DEFENDER: John M. Martinez, Linda Schwartz Vac, Ronald A. Yorizane

PUBLIC LIBRARY: Margaret W. Owen

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Fydra I. Brantley, Mike M. Cao, Juet T. Ha, Delores D. Johnson, Annette J. Reyno, Mara Shima, Ahn J. Sung, Ella M. Thomas, Maureen Walker, Silvia E. Zayas

REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK: Jesus E. Pabalan

SHERIFF: Frank B. Arvizu, Gerald D. Brown, Ligaya C. Carlisle, Steven A. Castro, Barry S. Goldstein, Fidelia Gutierrez, Rita Hall, Lucy M. Howard, Vicky L. Lacasella, Steven L. Long, Alfred Lopez Jr., Ralph T. Nishihira, Agustin A. Ortiz, Glenn R. Peacock, Mary L. Ramos, Raymonn Rocha, Joseph A. Smith, Richard A. Stevenson, Henry M. Stewart, Jose F. Torreblanca, Robert F. Windrim



MTA and Foothill transit passes are available for purchase from the Office of the Treasurer and Tax Collector on the first floor of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, window #114.

Supervisor Molina Reopens Beverly Boulevard Bridge

Supervisor Gloria Molina recently announced the reopening of the Beverly Boulevard Bridge, a critical traffic artery connecting the cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera over the Rio Hondo Channel.

“I am so relieved that this bridge is open again,” Molina said. “Its unexpected closure made traffic unbearable for commuters throughout this entire region and the ramifications were felt by residents and merchants alike. Thankfully, this situation has come to an end.”



Supervisor Molina joins local dignitaries to celebrate the reopening of the Beverly Boulevard Bridge.

On November 1, 2005, a fire destroyed approximately 180 feet of the steel and timber bridge. (A transient allegedly set the structure ablaze while trying to keep warm; the District Attorney has charged him with recklessly setting a fire.) Authorities had no choice but to immediately close the bridge, which had provided commuters with a critical link between Montebello and Pico Rivera—especially for people working in downtown Los Angeles who used the road to avoid freeway traffic.

Molina joined with Montebello Mayor Bob Bagwell and Pico Rivera Mayor David Armenta to expedite the construction of a temporary bridge consisting of one lane in each direction. The total cost of the temporary structure was \$850,000; each city provided \$85,000 and the remaining \$680,000 came from federal road funds. The County provided an additional \$290,000 solely for costs associated with construction, which was managed and executed by the Department of Public Works.

The temporary bridge opened to the public on February 9. In April, work will begin to permanently replace and widen the bridge so that it features two lanes of traffic in each direction. This final phase should be complete by Summer 2007.

HOMELESS COURT PROGRAM

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(GAIN) and General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) employment programs. This expansion of the Homeless Court is projected to result in more than \$200,000 in savings to Los Angeles County annually by facilitating improved access to employment that, in turn, ends dependency upon General Relief.

*Mayor Antonovich presents a scroll to Bryce Yokomizo,
Director of the Department of Public Social Services.*



Employee Wellness Program

The Wellness Fair goes to El Monte!

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Department of Public Social Services will host the next Wellness Fair at:

3400 Aerojet Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731
Employee Lunchroom & Patio

There will be FREE Health Screenings and Evaluations for County employees for:

Diabetes
Blood Pressure
Dermascan
Grip Testing
Body Composition
and much more!

For more information, call your departmental Wellness Coordinator or Diana Fonseca of the Department of Human Resources at (213) 738-2236.

Exercise Classes

Weekly exercise classes are held at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in room B-62. Employees may take the classes upon signing an agreement of release, assumption of risk, and waiver of liability. For your reference, below is the most current schedule.

CLASS	INSTRUCTOR/COST	DAY OF WEEK/TIME
Yoga (All Levels)	Robert Taylor/\$10 per class, \$60 for 7 Classes	Monday from noon to 12:50 p.m.
Yoga (All Levels)	Robert Taylor/\$10 per class, \$60 for 7 Classes	Monday from 5:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.
Yoga (All Levels)	Lisa Gold/\$10 per class, \$45 for 5 classes	Tuesday from noon to 12:50 p.m.
Mat Pilates (Intermediate)	Abby Royale/\$10 per class, \$48 for 6 classes	Wednesday from noon to 12:50 p.m.
Salsa (Beginning)	FREE	Wednesday from 5:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.
Salsa (Beginning)	FREE	Thursday from noon to 12:50 p.m.

Healthy Connections Seminars

Healthy Connections seminars are free, hour-long seminars held once a month at 12:00 Noon at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in room B-62. The seminars are held on a walk-in basis. There is no need to RSVP. The seminars are informal and employees are encouraged to bring a "brown bag" lunch. They provide employees with information on various health topics. The upcoming 2006 seminar dates and topics are:

April 20	Chair Exercises – Exercising @ your desk!
May 18	Summer Skin Care – Watch out for those UV Rays!
June 22	What Causes Bad Breath – Prevent & Eliminate!
July 20	Positive Parenting Skills
August 17	Smoking Cessation – Take the first step!
September 28	Cholesterol Awareness – Are you at risk?
October 12	Preventing Cancer – Start now!
November 9	Personal Fitness – Invest in yourself!
December 7	Healthy & Tasty Holiday Cooking

Supervisor Burke Joins Transportation Secretary Mineta for LAX Grants Announcement

Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke joined U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) when he held a news conference to announce that the federal government had awarded a total of \$56.5 million in grants to LAX for projects in and around the airport.

\$29.5 million will be used to relocate the LAX south runway 50 feet further south. This will make room for a new taxi way that will help eliminate tie-ups and incursions, making air traffic on the ground safer and more efficient. The relocation will also provide room to land the latest wide-body passenger jet, the Airbus 380.

The remaining \$27 million will be used to retrofit a total of 8,000 residences in the LAX flight path with double-pane windows, solid doors and attic insulation to cut down on the noise of incoming passenger jets. More than 2,400 homes have either already been modified or are in the process of being modified.



Supervisor Burke and Lydia Kennard, Executive Director of Los Angeles World Airports listen as U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta announces federal grants for projects in and around LAX. To the right of Mineta is Ingleswood Mayor Roosevelt Dorn. In the background is the theme restaurant in LAX.

After the news conference, Supervisor Burke noted that \$25 million has been allocated to retrofit homes in the Second District. \$20 million is being allocated to homes in the Ingleswood area. \$5 million will be allocated to homes in the Lennox area. In the city of El Segundo, in the Fourth District, \$2 million will be spent on retrofitting. Supervisor Burke said, "The allocations are based on the number of homes in need of modifications in areas where jet noise is 65 decibels or higher. These grants are most welcome and have not come a moment too soon."

She said the news conference was an opportunity to touch base with Mineta, an old friend with whom she served in the U.S. Congress. Mineta, from northern California, is also a former mayor of San José.

Joining Secretary Mineta and Supervisor Burke at the news conference were Ingleswood Mayor Roosevelt Dorn and El Segundo Mayor Kelly McDowell.

Supervisor Knabe Honors Personnel at Lakewood Golf Course



Supervisor Don Knabe and Parks and Recreation Director Russ Guiney (far right) honored managers and staff of the Lakewood Golf Course for being selected the 2005 Los Angeles County Golf Course of the Year.

Share It



Beaches and Harbors Offers Fun on the Water and Birdwatching for Spring

Two very popular Beaches and Harbors programs are celebrating the spring season by offering aquatic-related activities and birdwatching tours.

Water Awareness Training Education and Recreation or W.A.T.E.R. Youth Program spring camps are presented at Los Angeles County beaches for youth ages seven – 17 during the Spring Break. Sessions include ocean skills (swimming, body surfing and body boarding), marine life education (animal identification and tide pools), canoeing, kayaking and sailing, as well as beach games and crafts. All camps are taught by Los Angeles County Ocean Lifeguards.

Surf Camps offer basic surfing instruction for novice, beginning and intermediate levels, surfing etiquette, board types and board selection, and surf history. Sessions are held from April 10 – 14 and April 17 – 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Ocean Sports Camps offer the opportunity to experience and acquire skills in a wide variety of recreational activities, including surfing, sailing, kayaking and body boarding. Sessions are held from April 10 – 14 and April 17 – 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 pm. A Beginning Sailing Camp offers sessions that include knot tying, basic sailing knowledge and terms, boat maintenance and rigging, tacking, docking and ocean sailing. This camp will be held in Marina del Rey April 10 – 14 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All equipment is provided. To register or obtain information, call the W.A.T.E.R. Youth Program office at (310) 305-9587. W.A.T.E.R. Program summer camps in Ocean Sports, Surfing, and Sailing will be held throughout the summer. Schedules will be available after April 1.

Outdoor Adventures 2006 will present sessions in both harbor kayaking and surf kayaking through the spring season and on into the summer and fall. A leisure kayaking session in the Marina del Rey harbor for the whole family will be offered for youth ages 10 – 18 and for adults 19 and older. Sessions will be held April 15, May 13, June 17, July 15, August 26, September 16 and October 21. All outings take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. For the more adventuresome, Surf Kayaking cruises through the Marina del Rey Harbor and heads out to the North Jetty, where participants can surf the waves aboard sit-on-top kayaks. Youth ages 10 - 18 and adults 19 and older are welcome. Sessions will be held on April 15, May 13, June 17, July 15, August 26, September 16 and October 21. All outings take place from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. All kayaking sessions are supervised by Los Angeles County Ocean Lifeguards.

The very popular Birdwatching Experience sessions will return this season. These are two-hour walks to visit sites in the Ballona Wetlands to witness nests of the Great Blue Heron and Black Crowned Night Heron, as well as the diverse bird life of the Wetlands. Session held May 25 begins at 9:00 a.m. and sessions held April 27 and June 22 begin at 4:00 p.m.

To register for the programs or for more information, call (310) 822-8530.



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